

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Inventory Number: ~~CH-906~~ CH-906

Address: 12595 Poplar Hill Road, Charles County - in the vicinity of Waldorf

Owner: Adams, Helene A

Tax Parcel Number: 21 Tax Map Number: 16

Project MD 301 Agency State Highway Administration (SHA)

Site visit by SHA Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility **not** recommended ☒

Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☒ None

Is property located within a historic district?: ☒ no ☐ yes Name of District: \_\_\_\_\_

Is district listed?: ☒ no ☐ yes

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

The barn complex at 12595 Poplar Hill Road comprises a cedar lined entrance leading to several outbuildings. The entrance is marked by a rough-cut stone pier with a carved cap. The concrete foundation of a former outbuilding is still visible to the southeast of the tree-lined entry. A two-story barn and a one-story outbuilding are located to the east of the foundation. The barn has a front gable roof. A large sliding wood door marks the entrance. The barn is clad with vertical wood siding and is covered by metal sheeting. The one-story outbuilding has a front gable roof and a single-leaf door. The building is clad with asbestos siding and has a corrugated metal roof.

Most inhabitants of Charles County were engaged in farming at the time of the first settlement. The barn was the principle building erected on a farm which provided space for cows, horses, equipment, and hay, straw or tobacco storage. Throughout the 19th century, barns increased in size or were newly built to include space for smaller animals, such as poultry and pigs, and as a place for the threshing and storage of grain. Their size also increased during the 19th century as the introduction of improved equipment led to more efficient and profitable operations, and, consequently, to increased need for storage facilities. Typically, livestock was housed on the lower level,

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐

Eligibility **not** recommended ☒

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Consideration ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

10/22/99  
Date

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

while the upper level was reserved for the storage of hay and straw, and the threshing and storage of feed grains.

Charles County's late 19th- and early 20th-century history is dominated by industrial and urban development. The greatest impact upon community growth came from the railroad. The completion of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad's (B&P) mainline from Bowie in Prince George's County to Pope's Creek in Charles County in 1872 prompted local entrepreneurs to establish stores and other commercial facilities near the railroad stations. The B&P Railroad also made inland farms accessible, thus, increasing their value and revitalizing the practice of agriculture in Southern Maryland.

In the first part of the 20th century, the economy of Charles County was based upon agricultural production, especially tobacco. Charles County was one of the largest producers of tobacco in the State of Maryland. With its economy geared toward agricultural, Charles County was primarily rural and the housing introduced after World War II was on a small scale in comparison to other areas in the country.

Towards the end of the first quarter of the 20th century, road improvements and developments also contributed to Charles County's community evolution. In particular, the Robert Crain Highway, later expanded as part of U.S. 301, attracted new development to older communities along its corridor. Waldorf became an important interchange on the Crain Highway between the rest of Southern Maryland and Washington, D.C. and expanded in the 1920s both commercially and residentially. In 1922 in anticipation of the Crain Highway, J. Spence Howard surveyed and subdivided the village of Waldorf, which came to include such amenities as a hotel, a general store, several small shops, a two-room school, restaurants and entertainment establishments equipped with slot machines.

Built circa 1920, this barn complex is not eligible for the National Register. While it is an example of agricultural development surrounding Waldorf, this resource lacks significance related to events, persons, or architecture. Criterion D, information potential, was not assessed for this study.

CH-906  
ST. PETERS  
CHURCH

18.7/311  
87/591  
48.00 A.  
P. 153

HELENE A. ADAMS  
543/224

P. 21

PATRICK O'BOYLE  
34/492  
156.00 A.  
P. 113

TRANSMISSION  
LINE

PATRICK O'BOYLE  
87/591  
59.00 A.  
P. 114

MAP 15-P. 157

CHARLES COUNTY  
SAND & GRAVEL CO., INC.  
364 / 9  
82.94 A.  
P. 11

GARDINE

M15-P. 364

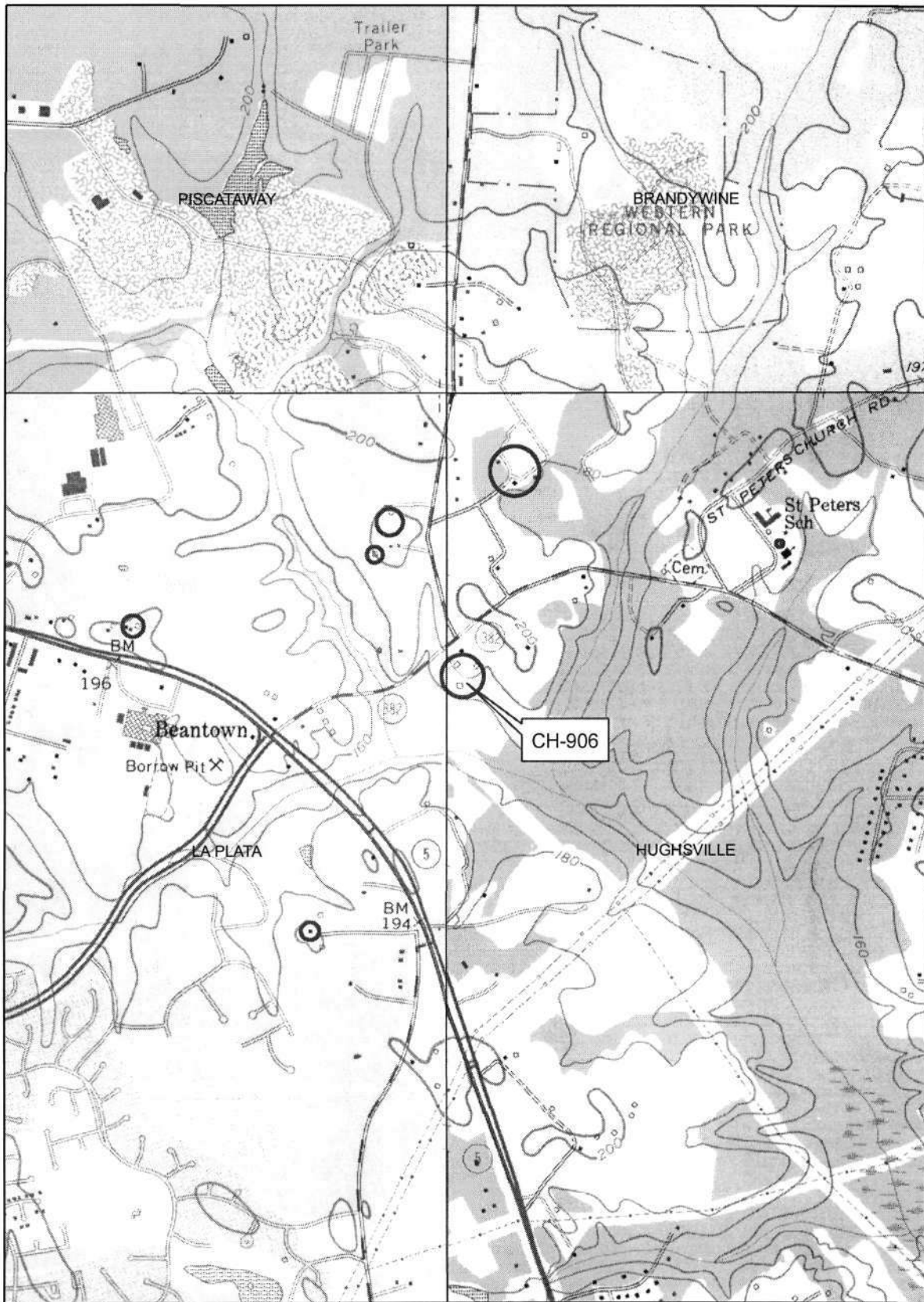
JOHN R.  
GARDNER  
805/254  
10.93 A.  
P. 69

Charles County, MD  
Tax Map 16

N↑

YENNETH A. YENNETH A. GOLDSMITH

CH-906  
Hughsville  
Quad





CH-906

~~CH-906~~

12595 Poplar Hill Road

Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking Southeast

1 of 3



CH-906

~~CH-906~~

12595 Poplar Hill Road

Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO

View looking east

2 of 3





CH-906

~~CH-906~~

12595 Poplar Hill Road  
Charles County, MD

Traceries

June 1999

MD SHPO  
View looking east  
3 of 3